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## TRANSMITTAL FORM

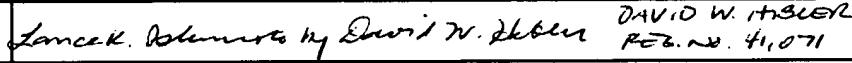
*(to be used for all correspondence after initial filing)*

<b>TRANSMITTAL FORM</b>		Application Number	09/854,844	RECEIVED
		Filing Date	May 14, 2001	
		First Named Inventor	Hu, Yi	
		Group Art Unit	1652	
		Examiner Name	Ramirez, Delia M.	
Total Number of Pages in This Submission	16	Attorney Docket Number	LEX-0176-USA	

### ENCLOSURES (check all that apply)

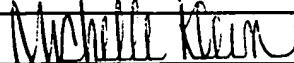
<input type="checkbox"/> Fee Transmittal Form <input type="checkbox"/> Fee Attached <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Amendment / Reply <input type="checkbox"/> After Final <input type="checkbox"/> Affidavits/declaration(s) <input type="checkbox"/> Extension of Time Request <input type="checkbox"/> Express Abandonment Request <input type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement <input type="checkbox"/> Certified Copy of Priority Document(s) <input type="checkbox"/> Response to Missing Parts/ Incomplete Application <input type="checkbox"/> Response to Missing Parts under 37 CFR 1.52 or 1.53	<input type="checkbox"/> Assignment Papers <i>(for an Application)</i> <input type="checkbox"/> Drawing(s) <input type="checkbox"/> Licensing-related Papers <input type="checkbox"/> Petition <input type="checkbox"/> Petition to Convert to a Provisional Application <input type="checkbox"/> Power of Attorney, Revocation <input type="checkbox"/> Change of Correspondence <input type="checkbox"/> Terminal Disclaimer <input type="checkbox"/> Request for Refund <input type="checkbox"/> CD, Number of CD(s) _____	<input type="checkbox"/> After Allowance Communication to Group <input type="checkbox"/> Appeal Communication to Board of Appeals and Interferences <input type="checkbox"/> Appeal Communication to Group <i>(Appeal Notice, Brief, Reply Brief)</i> <input type="checkbox"/> Proprietary Information <input type="checkbox"/> Status Letter <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Other Enclosure(s) (please identify below): - Return Postcard - Corrected Oath/Declaration
Remarks		

### SIGNATURE OF APPLICANT, ATTORNEY, OR AGENT

Firm or Individual name	Lexicon Genetics Incorporated  Lance K. Ishimoto Reg. No. 41.866	24231 PATENT TRADEMARK OFFICE
Signature	 DAVID W. HIBBER Reg. No. 41,071	
Date	March 1, 2002	

### CERTIFICATE OF MAILING

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Typed or printed name	Michelle Klein		
Signature		Date	March 1, 2002

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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant(s): Hu *et al.*

Group Art Unit: 1652

Application No.: 09/854,844

Examiner: D. Ramirez

Filed: 05/14/2001

Atty. Docket No.: LEX-0176-USA

Title: Novel Human Protease and Polynucleotides  
Encoding the Same



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**AMENDMENT AND RESPONSE TO OFFICE ACTION**  
**DATED DECEMBER 3, 2001**

Assistant Commissioner for Patents  
Washington, D.C. 20231

Sir:

The Applicants acknowledge the receipt of the Office Action ("the Action") mailed on December 3, 2001 (Paper No. 7), which has been carefully reviewed and studied. The Examiner is respectfully requested to enter the following amendments. Reexamination and reconsideration of the application is requested in view of the following amendments and remarks. In order to facilitate the Examiner's evaluation of the application, Applicants have attempted to address the objections and rejections in Paper No. 7 in the same order in which they were originally raised.

The response is due on March 3, 2002, which falls on a Sunday. The period for response is therefore extended until Monday, March 4, 2002 under 37 C.F.R. § 1.7. The response is thus timely filed. Applicants believe no fees are due in connection with this response. However, the Commissioner is authorized to charge any required fees or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 50-0892.

**AMENDMENT**

**In the claims:**

Please amend the claims so that the text of the amended claim reads as follows:

*a)* 1. (Amended) An isolated nucleic acid molecule comprising at least 24 contiguous bases of nucleotide sequence from SEQ ID NO:1.